

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Claims 1-15 (cancelled)

16. (new) An intrauterine fetal monitoring electrode assembly consisting essentially of:

a ribbon-like insulating strip having a first side and a second side;

a first electrode disposed on said first side of said insulating strip;

a second electrode disposed on said second side of said insulating strip;

a first electrical lead connected to said first electrode and having a proximal end attachable to an input of a fetal monitor; and

a second electrical lead connected to said second electrode and having a proximal end attachable to an input of a fetal monitor.

17. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 16, wherein said insulating strip is made of a material selected from the group consisting of polyester film, rubber, latex, and plastic.

18. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 16, wherein said first and second electrodes are metallic contact electrodes.

19. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 18, wherein said first and second electrodes are made of a material selected from the group consisting of silver and stainless steel.

20. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 16, wherein at least one of said first and second sides of said insulating strip comprises surface features for helping to hold said assembly in place between fetal tissue and maternal tissue.

21. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 20, wherein said surface features comprise protuberances resembling fish scales.

22. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 16, wherein said insulating strip has an insertion end with a grip for aiding in placement of said insulating strip.

23. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 22, wherein said grip comprises a pocket for releasably receiving a stylet guide.

24. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 22, wherein said grip comprises a finger grip.

25. (new) An intrauterine fetal monitoring electrode assembly comprising:

- a thin insulating strip having a first side, a second side, an insertion end, and a connector end;

- a first electrode disposed on said first side of said strip;

- a second electrode disposed on said second side of said strip; and

- an electrical connector disposed on said connector end of said strip, said electrical connector being adaptable to provide electrical connectivity between each of said first and second electrodes and a fetal monitor;

- said strip being positionable in a monitoring position between a uterine wall and a fetus within a pregnant female by insertion of said insertion end through the vagina of the female;

- said strip being sufficiently flexible to prevent placement of said strip in said monitoring position by pushing said strip from said connector end.

26. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 25, wherein said strip comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyester film, rubber, latex, and plastic.

27. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 25, wherein each of said first and second electrodes comprises a material selected from the group consisting of silver and stainless steel.

28. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 25, wherein at least one of said first and second electrodes comprises a plurality of electrodes.

29. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 25, wherein at least one of said first and second sides of said strip comprises surface features for helping to hold said assembly in said monitoring position.

30. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 29, wherein said surface features comprise protuberances resembling fish scales.
31. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 25, further comprising a grip on said insertion end for aiding in placement of said strip.
32. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 31, wherein said grip comprises a pocket for releasably receiving a stylet guide.
33. (new) The electrode assembly of claim 31, wherein said grip comprises a finger grip.